

Fair today and tomorrow; light easterly winds, becoming variable.

The Washington Times.

Thirty-six Pages.
THREE SECTIONS.

NUMBER 3255.

WASHINGTON, SUNDAY, MAY 10, 1903—THIRTY-SIX PAGES—

Copyright, 1903,
By Frank A. Munsey.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

INFERNAL MACHINE ON BOARD UMBRIA

Police Warned in Time to
Avert Disaster.

ALLEGED HAND OF "MAFIA"

One Hundred Pounds of Dynamite Discovered—Would Have Blown Ship to Bottom of Sea.

NEW YORK, May 9.—On the deck of the steamship Umbria a box containing an infernal machine was found this afternoon, a few minutes before the ship sailed.

The box was of plain white pine, with iron handles, and was so arranged that the 100 pounds of dynamite which it contained would have been discharged by clockwork within thirty-six hours.

Letter Gave Warning.

The discovery of the machine was due to a letter received at police headquarters this afternoon, which gave the warning. The letter was written in pencil, was mailed at the general postoffice at 12 o'clock, noon, and as it bore a special delivery stamp, was taken at once to headquarters. It was addressed to Commissioner Greene, and read as follows:

"Dear Sir: The Mafia greets you and wishes you well. At the Cunard dock is a box containing 100 pounds of dynamite. Inside also is a machine that, properly set, can explode the stuff any time within thirty-six hours.

"War Against England.

"The society has declared war against England and has ordered the destruction of every steamer flying the British flag sailing out of New York Harbor. The undersigned received orders to begin operations by sinking the Oceanic, but so many women and children took passage on that boat that the society's plans were changed at the last moment.

"The society has undertaken to clear New York Harbor of British ships, and it will succeed. The reason for this movement the society does not wish to disclose. Suffice it to say that the society, to protect itself, must carry the war into the enemy's country. It proposes to wage the war as fiercely as it knows how.

"Lay On, Macduff."

"This is the society's first and last warning, and those who purpose to patronize British steamers must take their chances in the future. The society asks and gives no quarter; so, Lay on, Macduff, and damned be he who first cries, hold, enough."

"PIETRO DE MARTINI.

"P. S.—The battery is not attached—fuse is without caps, and lighter not set. Consequently there is no danger in handling it."

This letter was opened by Mr. Bloch, secretary of Second Deputy Commissioner Piper, to whom he turned it over. Captain Piper consulted Inspector Cortright and four detectives were hurried to the pier, while the master of the dock and the captain of the vessel were informed by telephone.

Far From a Hoax.

It was thought that the matter was probably a hoax, and if it was not that the fuse had not been arranged so as to make the handling of the machine safe. This was found to be correct.

Arriving at the pier, the detective began a search for it and located the box on the deck among the cabin passengers. It was lowered gingerly into the water and the bureau of combustibles was informed.

When examined later the box was found to contain 100 pounds of dynamite, enough to have blown the whole ship to pieces. The fuse was even then burning, so that it would have exploded in a short time and many people would have been killed and injured.

Just in Time.

"If that machine had not been discovered, the entire charge of 100 pounds of dynamite would have exploded within one minute," said Inspector Murray, of the bureau of combustibles, this afternoon, after he had returned from the Umbria's pier.

"When the deadly machine was submerged in the water one of the time fuses had already burned through the greater portion of its length, and in a minute more, at the most, the explosion would have occurred. There is not the slightest doubt but that scores of persons would have lost their lives. The force of the concussion alone would have been deadly. Dynamite exerts a downward and outward force, and that amount would have swept the pier and much space adjoining."

On the vessel were 130 cabin passengers, 122 second cabin passengers, and 150 in the steerage. The crew numbers about 225. The 100 dynamite sticks were labeled "Climax Powder Manufacturing Company, Pa."

LOW BIRTH RATE SHOWN BY REGISTRAR'S REPORT

LONDON, May 9.—The annual report of the British registrar general, just issued for the year 1902, shows that the birth rate was by far the lowest ever shown by the records. The population of Scotland is given as 4,531,299. In the year there were but a little more than a hundred thousand births, and 77,000 deaths, while there was a falling off in marriages of nearly 5 per cent.

LEE STATUE TO GO IN STATUARY HALL

Opposition of G. A. R. Veterans Withdrawn.

SCULPTOR BEGINS WORK

Expected That Monument Will Be Completed Within Two Years.

Opposition to the erection of the effigy of Gen. Robert Edward Lee, the Confederate chieftain, in Statuary Hall, has died out, and it is said no attempt will be made to interfere with the intended honor to the memory of the greatest military chieftain of the Lost Cause.

Sculptor's Work Begun.

Letters received here from Richmond say Sculptor Valentine has begun work on the statue, for which the Legislature of the Old Dominion has appropriated a portion of \$17,000. He expects to have the work completed in about eighteen months or two years. The statue is to be modeled from the famous recumbent figure on the Lee sarcophagus at Lexington, Va.

The sculptor has the exact measurements of both the face and form of General Lee, and will produce a statue which will be the exact reproduction of the face and body of the great Confederate chieftain.

It is a remarkable fact that there is not in existence today a full length erect effigy of General Lee, with the exception of the statue crowning the Lee monument in New Orleans, and this is not a portrait statue, nor one suitable for indoor statuary.

There is a recumbent figure at Lexington and an equestrian figure in the western part of Richmond, the Mercier statue, but there is not in Virginia, nor outside the State, with the single exception noted, an erect full-length effigy of Lee.

Two Statues to Be Made.

The Virginia Legislature appropriated the \$17,000 for two statues, \$10,000 of which will be expended upon the effigy of Lee and the remainder upon a replica of Houdon's figure of Washington.

The opposition to the plan to place the effigy of Lee in Statuary Hall was led by several patriotic societies and two or three Northern Congressmen, who expressed the opinion that one so prominent in the affairs of the Confederacy should not be honored in the sacred hall of the Government he had striven so hard to overthrow.

This view was strenuously attacked by friends of the plan, who pointed to General Lee's services in the war with Mexico and in the United States army as enough to entitle him to the honor.

Opposition Withdrawn.

The Congressmen who opposed the plan are not now in the city, and the leader of the Department of the Potomac of the Grand Army of the Republic, who were interviewed on the subject, while they refused to be quoted, said the organization felt it should withdraw opposition to the plan.

"Forty years have passed," said a past commander, "since the civil war, and the wounds have nearly all healed. The war with Spain solidified the country. Let it remain that way. If Virginia intends to honor her great son, the Grand Army should not try to oppose her. One General Lee is again wearing the blue. General Wheeler is doing the same. Scores of former Confederates have been sent to the Senate and House by their States, so I fail to see why Virginia should not erect the statue."

Chief Executive Visits Ancient Missions in California.

PRESIDENT'S TRAIN SKIRTS THE PACIFIC

SAN LUIS OBISPO, May 9.—President Roosevelt's northward flying train skirted the edge of the Pacific nearly all day. He made speeches at Oxnard, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo, and visited the ancient missions at the last three places.

He climbed the belfry of the mission at Ventura to look at the old wooden bell hanging there, and stood with bowed head beside the graves of the dead in the little garden in the monastery at Santa Barbara.

The President will spend a quiet Sunday at Del Monte.

HARSH OFFICIAL NAMED FOR FINLAND'S GOVERNOR

ST. PETERSBURG, May 9.—Prince Obolensky has been appointed governor of Finland. His appointment is for the purpose of introducing an iron hand in the administration. Obolensky is the most cruel member of the Russian hierarchy.

While governor of Kharkoff he attained great notoriety by his savage suppression of the peasant unrest. He ordered thousands of the natives shot and knouted under his personal supervision.

CAPTURED BY MOORS.

ALGIERS, May 9.—A French convoy was captured by the Moors today near the Moroccan border, after a sharp engagement, in which the French lost twenty-five killed and fifty-five wounded and eight missing.

SUICIDAL MANIA AGAIN RAMPANT

One Dead, One Attempt, and One Suspect.

RECORD OF THE YEAR HEAVY

Supposed Body of Edward Osterman Found Beside Railroad Tracks. Disappeared Last Tuesday.

Another wave of the mania for self-destruction held Washington in its grasp yesterday, leaving a trail of one suicide and one attempt, while another violent death has indications of self-destruction.

The victims were David Sondheimer, a horse dealer, of 1115 Fifth Street northwest; Hughey Rivers, aged twenty years, of 2031 Ninth Street, and probably Edward Osterman, a blacksmith, employed by William Walters & Son, wagon and carriage builders, whose disappearance last Tuesday is believed to have a solution in the finding of a mangled body at the Virginia end of the Long Bridge early yesterday morning.

These deaths add in making this season's list of suicides one of the largest that has ever been recorded in the District. Since the first of spring a spirit of depression has been rampant throughout the city, and the lives of many have been blotted out through the gruesome epidemic.

Crushed Body Found.

The body supposed to be that of Osterman was found crushed and torn, lying beside the Southern Railway tracks near Fort Runyon. Nothing could be found in the clothes to establish identification, and the remains were buried in the poorhouse cemetery at Alexandria.

Previous to his disappearance, the man had been accused of stealing from his employers, and the case had been given to the police. He felt keenly the disgrace, and expressed his weariness of life to several friends.

The probable identification was brought about in an unusual manner. Early last evening a young man called at the home of his father, John P. Osterman, of 629 Q Street northwest, and said he was confident the body was that of the latter's son. The description of the clothes answer to those worn by the missing man.

Young Osterman had not been seen by the members of his family for some time. They knew little of his movements, and were not even aware of his place of residence. His father said last night, however, he believed the body to be that of his son, and will take steps today to have it exhumed.

A Love Tragedy.

A tangled love affair is said to have been the motive that prompted Rivers to make an attempt on his life. He was found in a room on the first floor of his home with a bullet wound near the heart. He had shot himself while alone in the house.

At the Georgetown University Hospital, where Rivers was taken, his condition was pronounced serious, but not necessarily fatal. He admitted having tried to kill himself, declaring he had been despondent through worry. He refused to give, however, the actual motive.

The suicide of Sondheimer was reported in yesterday's Times. He was a widely known business man, and is believed to have ended his life because of financial reverses. He blew his brains out while alone in a second-story room. He had just returned from an extended Western trip.

Recent Congress in Bordeaux a Confusion of Ideas.

SOCIALISM SHOWN TO BE AN IDLE DREAM

PARIS, May 9.—The recent sitting of the Socialist congress at Bordeaux demonstrated the fact that there is no longer such a thing as international socialism. The conference between unimaginative English trades unionists, talkative French revolutionists, idealistic German theorists, with a dash of the genuine anarchist from Italy and Russia, only showed rooted divergence of opinion.

The comparative moderation of men like Jaures and Millerand has tended to minimize the socialistic evil in France. The growth of thrift, the increase of provident institutions, and the tendency of recent legislation have all been unfavorable to communistic propaganda in England. But in Germany the Socialist poll has been growing at each succeeding election, and the Socialist Democrats have become the best organized and almost the strongest, numerically, of all the groups of the Reichstag.

So alarming has become the increase that the Kaiser has become anxious and is endeavoring to devise ways and means of preventing this majority from increasing at the general elections to be held in June.

40,000 WORDS AN HOUR.

BERLIN, May 9.—The government has ordered the introduction of the Pollak-Virag system of rapid telegraphy throughout the kingdom. Exhaustive tests of the system have been made, and in these an average of forty thousand words an hour was obtained.

SHIPS REPORTED LOST.

BERLIN, May 9.—Seven sailing ships, bound for Lubeck, are reported to have been lost. Their crews aggregated fifty-five men. It is feared that all were drowned.

CZAR NICHOLAS WITHDRAWS HIS ARMED FORCES FROM THE CITY OF NIUCHWANG

PLANS CHANGED FOR SHERMAN MONUMENT

Names of Battles Not to Appear on Pedestal.

PROGRESS OF THE WORK

Inscriptions at First Intended for Pedestal Will Be Laid in Mosaic Around Its Base.

The decorative designs for the granite pedestal of the Sherman statue, to be erected south of the Treasury Building, have been materially changed, and the new idea will, no doubt, meet with the approval of the many friends of the late General Sherman. The names of the several engagements in which the general took part are not to be sculptured on the pedestal, as at first intended, but will be incorporated in a mosaic platform, six feet wide, which will surround the base of the pedestal. Nothing will appear on the four sides of the pedestal but the name and rank of the soldier, the date of his birth and death.

To Avoid Crowding.

This change has just been decided upon by Mrs. Carl Rohl-Smith and her nephew, who since the death of Mr. Rohl-Smith, have had charge of the details of the work. The general's old friends were consulted and the matter discussed with the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds. It was thought that to place the names of all the engagements in which Sherman participated would have the appearance of crowding, and for that reason the mosaic platform was suggested.

This idea met with approval by all concerned and work was commenced yesterday on its construction. The four principal campaigns in which Sherman was active will be apportioned to the four sides of the pedestal, and enough each caption will be the battles and engagements belonging to that particular campaign. The mosaic work will be done by experts and will conform in general excellence with the scheme of the statue as at first contemplated.

Casting Almost Completed.

The casting of the several parts of the statue has been nearly completed, but one or two small sections remaining unfinished. The work is being done by the Gorham Manufacturing Company, of Providence, R. I.

As has been previously published in The Times, the date for the unveiling has been postponed until October 15, when the ceremonies will be attended by the organizations of which General Sherman was a member. The parts of the statue will be received in Washington early in September and will be immediately put in place on the pedestal, which is now erected.

ANOTHER VICTIM OF HARGIS-COCKRELL FEUD

Deputy Sheriff Ewing Reported Shot at Jackson.

LEXINGTON, Ky., May 9.—It is reported that Deputy Sheriff B. J. Ewing was assassinated at Jackson tonight. Ewing was shot at from ambush this morning. The shot missed, and the report is that Ewing was killed by an unknown person while on his rear porch tonight.

Ewing was with Attorney Marcum when the latter was killed in the court house at Jackson a few days ago, and he was supposed to be the assassin. Ewing was with either Tom Cockrell or J. B. Marcum, charged him with the assassination of J. B. Marcum at Jackson.

Cockrell was in Winchester in search of Jett, and Jett was formerly living at Jackson. They were on different sides of the Hargis-Cockrell feud several days ago, when Cockrell killed Jett.

Since the death of the Cockrells have been reported to have been murdered. The late Dr. B. D. Cox, guardian of Cockrell's property, Town Marshal James Cox, and J. B. Marcum, Cockrell's attorney, have sufficient reasons for seeking out a warrant against Jett.

DEATH QUICKLY COMPLETED.

BALTIMORE, May 9.—Applications for a \$25,000 loan of \$35,000,000 have been numerous that the entire loan has been more than subscribed. The applications closed at 11 o'clock this morning.

SHIPS REPORTED LOST.

BERLIN, May 9.—Seven sailing ships, bound for Lubeck, are reported to have been lost. Their crews aggregated fifty-five men. It is feared that all were drowned.

SUBCOMMITTEE HOME FROM ISTHMUS TRIP

Natives Favor Conde Treaty—War Rumors Are Held to Be Unfounded.

Members of the subcommittee of the Panama Canal Commission who visited the Isthmus to inspect the canal property have returned to this country, and Rear Admiral J. G. Walker spent yesterday in reducing an accumulation of mail matter. Gen. P. C. Hains, of Baltimore, and Prof. William H. Burr, of New York, who accompanied Admiral Walker to Colon, are now at their homes, but are expected in Washington early this week.

The members of the subcommittee found the canal property in excellent condition, and satisfactory in every particular. They left at Colon Major Black, of the Engineer Corps, who, with a company of engineers, will complete the preliminary work of the canal route.

While the visit to the isthmus of the subcommittee was for the purpose of inspection only, the sentiment of the people was obtained in relation to the possibility of objections to that ratification of the canal treaty. Nearly everyone on the isthmus was found to be in favor of ratification, although members of the committee were informed some opposition had developed. If this is true, it did not come to the notice of Admiral Walker.

Indications of an isthmian revolution or a movement for independence on the part of the state of Panama were not observed by members of the committee. While Admiral Walker was in Panama stories were printed here to the effect that a revolution was imminent. The rumors, however, came from Kingston, Jamaica, and were not regarded in a serious light.

The fact that Admiral Walker saw nothing of a disturbing character is reassuring to the State Department. Until the canal treaty is ratified a force of men will be kept at work on the property to prevent the lapsing of any of the rights of the new Panama Canal Company, which will eventually be acquired by the United States if there is no hitch in the agreement between this Government and the company. While the men employed will be paid by the canal company, a reimbursement will be made by this Government as soon as the treaty is ratified.

HEIRS WANT A SHARE OF FIFTY MILLIONS

Three Georgetown People Interested in Fell Estate.

JOIN WITH OTHER CLAIMANTS

City of Baltimore Leased Property From Widow of Owner for Ninety-Nine Years a Century Ago.

Since the contest over the estate of the late Stephen Fell, of Baltimore, was begun in that city, it has been learned that three of the heirs reside in Washington. They are Charles A. Payne and his sisters, Mrs. Mary Lucas and Mrs. Martha Coon, of Georgetown. The estate left by Stephen Fell is now variously estimated at from \$50,000,000 to \$60,000,000. The other claimants for the estate are residents of Philadelphia and of Baltimore. The estate consists of about two thousand shares of land along the Patuxent River front, together with the improvements. This property, it is said, is now under the control of the city of Baltimore, by right of a lease from Anne Fell, the wife of Stephen Fell.

According to the best information obtainable, Stephen Fell died in Baltimore in 1792. With the exception of small bequests made to his daughters-in-law, Stephen Fell left his estate to his wife, she, it is said, died in 1799. A short while before her death, however, she leased all the real estate left her by her husband to the city of Baltimore for a period of ninety-nine years.

Left All to His Wife.

The heirs of Stephen Fell, who reside in Georgetown have employed Attorney George W. Drew to take care of their interests. Mr. Drew said yesterday in a few days he will go to Baltimore and make an examination of the records in the probate court for the purpose of determining the status of his clients in the litigation.

Among the papers now in possession of Mr. Drew is a document dated February 27, 1799, which it is contended is a copy of the last will of Stephen Fell. According to the terms of this document Stephen Fell left all his estate to his wife, Anne Fell, with the exception of one heir, an iron pot, and a pair of pot books which he gave to his daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Edwards, and \$5 current money, which he left to another daughter-in-law, Anne Edwards.

It is said since the property was leased to the city of Baltimore, no rental was paid while the lease was in force; nor has any rent been paid since it expired. Some time ago, it is said, the comptroller of the city of Baltimore was asked if there was not a fund to the credit of the Fell heirs in the city treasury, and he replied that there was not. He stated, however, that he would make an investigation of the matter. The result of the investigation of the comptroller could not be learned here yesterday.

In the past hundred years great improvements have been made on the property leased to the corporation of Baltimore by Mrs. Fell. These improvements, which consist almost entirely of business buildings, have increased the value of the real estate to half a hundred millions or more.

It is said the attorneys for the Philadelphia and Baltimore claimants of the Fell estate are working together in the matter, and it is the intention of Mr. Drew, counsel for the Washington claimants, to join forces with them and prosecute the legal battle.

CRITICISED RULING OF ATHLETIC BOARD

Fitzpatrick Suspended From High School.

MAKES WRITTEN APOLOGY

Expressed His Dissatisfaction "In Language Unbecoming a Pupil and Team Captain."

As a finale to the recent trouble in the local high schools involving the refusal of the inter-high school athletic board to allow Pitcher Beckett, of the Business school, to enter the championship games, James Fitzpatrick, captain of the Business team, has been suspended from the public schools of the District. This step was taken by Director Hughes of the Washington high schools, as a reprimand to Fitzpatrick, who openly showed his displeasure at the board's decision in a manner considered unbecoming a pupil of the public schools.

It is now stated upon good authority that Fitzpatrick has tendered, in person, a written apology to the board for his hasty words, and that the restrictions upon his pursuing his studies at the Business will shortly be removed.

The Beckett Affair.

The youthful ball player's suspension resulted from his attitude in the Beckett affair. When Beckett, who was the star player of the Business nine, and upon whom the pupils of that school relied largely for the ultimate success of their team, was prohibited from entering the championship games, Fitzpatrick naturally took the matter to heart. He saw that with Beckett out of the way Business' chances for winning the championship this year would be sadly diminished. It was he who was largely instrumental in bringing the matter again before the attention of the board, in hopes of having the pitcher reinstated. It was in a feverish state of anxiety that he awaited the final decision of the case. The members of the athletic board were holding their session at the Central High School, and Fitzpatrick was stationed in front of the building, eager for the first tidings from the room.

Denounced the Board.

When at length word was brought him that the board had formally declined to reconsider the matter, Fitzpatrick's pent-up anger got the better of his discretion. It is said that he then and there announced his intention of "going up and telling the board exactly what he thought of every fellow on it." He did.

As the story goes, Fitzpatrick straightaway entered the presence of the august tribunal, and without much loss of time launched into a general denunciation of the board and its actions. Only hearsay gives a clue to just what happened in the room after that. Sufficient to state that the affair quickly reached the ears of Director Hughes, who promptly decreed that the Business High School and all other institutions of learning in the District would, until further notice, be run without the presence of the aforesaid Captain Fitzpatrick. This summary termination of Fitzpatrick's career as a High School student caused no little stir.

But, given time to think the matter over calmly, the young man's better judgment asserted itself. He presented a written apology to the board, which was accepted. Although nothing definite could be learned of the probable action in the matter, Fitzpatrick's full reinstatement is looked for in the near future.

Far Eastern War Clouds Pass Away—Secretary Hay Sees in Delay Chance for Peace.

Believed That Joint Protest From America, England, and Japan Brought About the Result.

Tendency Is to Question Gravity of Situation, Although Air of Mystery Marks Diplomatic Game.

Russia has evacuated Niuchwang. That is the startling intelligence Consul Miller has cabled the State Department.

The news came late yesterday afternoon. There were no details and no predictions.

The new turn of affairs renders the situation more mystifying, if such were possible. It indicates, however, that the dense war clouds that for the past twenty-four hours have settled over that particular locality in China have dissolved for the time being.

Trouble Ahead.

That they may again gather and, in concentrating, burst in all their fury, is not gainsaid.

But at this moment Secretary Hay is drawing deep sighs of relief and living in hopes that later details may point the way to a temporary truce that will enable the world's diplomatists to ward off for the present the climax that he feels confident can be eventually prevented.

In the absence of definite information it is presumed that Russia, alarmed by the ways of international anger, hastened to repair as quickly as possible the broken pledges which she is charged with having violated.

Russia May Wait.

The implied threat of a joint protest from the United States, England, and Japan may have had its effect. Russia would long hesitate before taking a step that might involve her in a conflict with her old and constant friend, Uncle Sam. Again, Russia may have decided to await a more favorable opportunity to act, and thus prevent Japan from seizing Korea and opening hostilities at once.

Count Cassini conferred with Secretary Hay yesterday before the latest word has been received from Niuchwang. He insisted that the alleged reoccupation of that town could not be a matter of any importance or he would have been advised. He argued that the absence of such advice indicated exaggeration. He repeated his promises that Russia would violate none of her pledges and that "she will retire from Manchuria as soon as she is satisfied that there is no danger of further trouble."

Ho'ds to a Promise.

"When the whole truth is known," said the count, "it will be found that Russia has not violated a single promise made to any nation, nor does she intend to do so. Whatever steps have been taken in Manchuria were those of self-defense." Minister Takahira also conferred with the Secretary early in the afternoon. They may have had under consideration a joint note which it is thought was to have been prepared.

It has been unofficially announced that the State Department has not conferred by wire with President Roosevelt. The reports of the disturbance in the Orient have been so conflicting that it was thought best to await full confirmation before taking the matter up with the President.

RUSSIA WITHDRAWS TROOPS FROM FORT

PEKIN, May 9.—The official at Niuchwang, who sent the news of Russia's occupancy of Manchuria and her military activity in the Far East, sent telegraphs that the occupation of the